

Amendment To Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b) (cont.)

“RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a national stage application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 371, which claims priority to the prior filed International Application Number PCT/GB2004/001621, having the international filing date of April 14, 2004, which claims priority to foreign patent application number GB0308607.1, filed on April 14, 2003, and to foreign patent application number GB0309826.6, filed on April 29, 2003.”

Amendment To Claims Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)

Applicant respectfully requests cancellation herein of Claims 1-18 and addition herein of new Claims 19-38, as provided below.

1-18. Cancelled.

19. (New) An ankle-foot orthosis for resisting plantarflexion of a patient's foot, the orthosis comprising: an elastic structure formed of contiguous first and second tubular members, said second tubular member being set at an angle to the first tubular member to define, at least in use, a generally L-shaped cavity configured to accept and fit closely about the foot and ankle of the patient; and a rib which is permanently bonded or otherwise permanently affixed to a region of the structure which overlies the dorsum of the patient's foot in use, said rib being formed of a resiliently flexible material that has a resilience appropriate for resisting the particular degree of plantarflexion experienced by the patient.

20. (New) An orthosis according to Claim 19, wherein said elastic structure is operable to exert a compressive force on said foot and ankle of said patient.

21. (New) An orthosis according to Claim 20, wherein said elastic structure comprises a compression stocking.